Her Majesty's
MOST GRACIOUS
LETTER
TO THE
PARLIAMENT
OF
SCOTLAND
TOGETHER WITH
His Grace the Lord high Commissioner, and the Lord high Chancellor their Speeches.

EDINBURGH,
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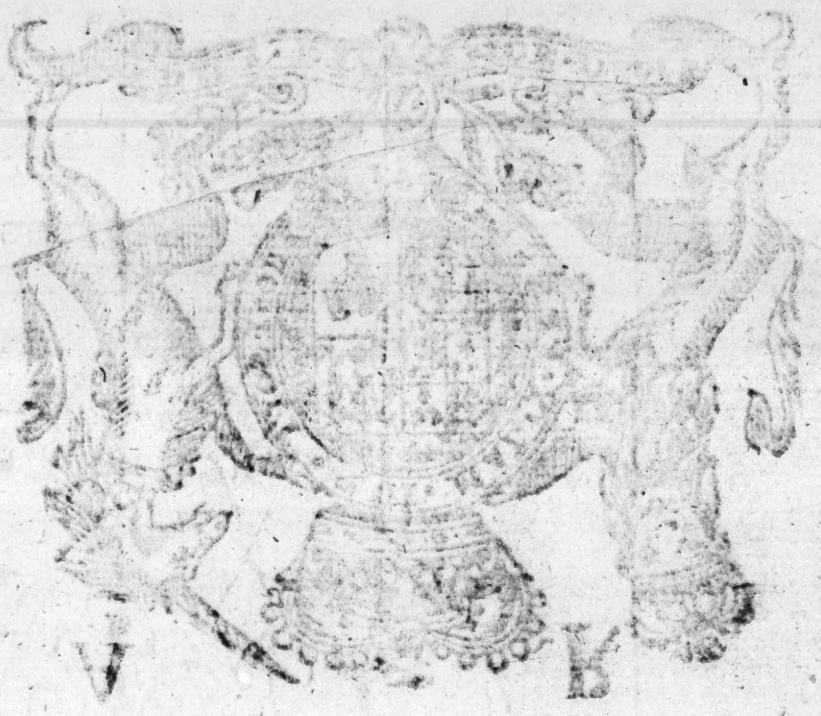

PARLIAMENT

TO THE

GENERAL

MOST GRACIOUS

SPEECHES

His GRACE the Lord High Commissioner,

TOGETHER WITH

SCOTLAND

AND

PARLIAMENT

TO THE

GENERAL

MOST GRACIOUS

SPEECHES

Her Majesty's most Gracious Letter to the Parliament of Scotland.

ANNE R.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

SINCE your last Meeting We did Nominat Commissioners to Treat of an Union betwixt Our two Kingdoms of *Scotland* and *England*, and by their great Care and Diligence a Treaty is happily Concluded and laid before Us.

We have Called You together as soon as Our Affairs could Permit, That the Treaty may be under Your Consideration, in Pursuance of the Act made in the last Session of Our Parliament there; and We Hope the Terms will be acceptable to You.

The Union has been long Desired by both Nations, and We shall Esteem it as the greatest Glory of Our Reign to have it now Perfected, being fully Perswaded, That it must prove the greatest Happiness of Our People.

An intire and perfect Union will be the solid Foundation of lasting Peace; It will secure Your Religion, Liberty and Property, remove the Animosities amongst Your Selves, and the Jealousies and Differences betwixt Our Two Kingdoms: It must increase Your Strength, Riches and Trade; and by this Union the whole Island being joyned in Affection and free from all Apprehension of different Interests, will be enabled to Resist all its Enemies, support the Protestant Interest every where, and maintain the Liberties of *Europe*.

We do upon this Occasion Renew the Assurances We have formerly given You, of Our Resolution to maintain the Government of the Church, as by Law Established in *Scotland*, and the Acts of both Parliaments, upon which this Treaty Proceeded, having Reserved their respective Governments of the Church in each Kingdom; the Commissioners have left that Matter Entire; and you have now an Opportunity for doing what may be necessary for Security of Your present Church Government after the Union within the Limits of *SCOTLAND*.

The Support of Our Government, and Your Own Safety does Require, That You do make necessary Provision for maintaining the Forces, Ships and Garrisons until the Parliament of GREAT-BRITAIN shall Provide for these Ends in the United Kingdom.

We have made choice of Our Right Truſtie, and Right Entirely Beloved Couſin and Counſellor, *James* Duke of *Queensberry*, to be our Commiſſioner, and Repreſent Our Royal Perſon, being well ſatisfyed with his Fitneſs for that Truſt, from the Experience We have of his Capacity, Zeal and Fidelity to Our Service, and the good of his Countrey; which, as it has determined Us in the Choice, We doubt not but will make him acceptable to You.

We have fully Inſtructed him in all things We think may fall under Your Conſideration, and ſeems to be neceſſary at preſent: Therefore We deſire that You may give entire Truſt and Credit to him.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

It cannot but be an Encouragement to You to Finiſh the Union at this Time, That GOD Almighty has Bleſſed Our Arms, and thoſe of Our Allies with ſo great Succeſs, which gives Us the nearer Proſpect of a happy Peace, and with it You will have the full Poſſeſſion of all the Advantages of this Union; and You have no Reaſon to doubt but the Parliament of *England* will do what is neceſſary on their part, after the Readineſs they have ſhown to remove what might obſtruct the entering on the Treaty. We moſt earneſtly Recommend to You Calmneſs and Unanimity in this Great and Weighty Affair, That the Union may be brought to a happy Concluſion, being the only effectual Way to ſecure your preſent and future Happineſs, and to Diſappoint the Deſigns of Our and Your Enemies, who will, doubtleſs, on this Occaſion, uſe their outmoſt Endeavours to Prevent or Delay this Union, which muſt ſo much Contribute to Our Glory, and the Happineſs of Our People; and ſo We bid You heartily Farewell. *Given at Our Court at* Windſor-*Caſtle, the Thirty firſt Day of* July 1706, *and of Our Reign the Fifth Year.*

By Her *Majeſties* Command.

MAR.

THE SPEECH

Of his Grace James *Duke of* Queensberry, *Her Majesties High Commissioner, to the Parliament of* Scotland.

On Thursday *the Third of* October 1706.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

HER Majesty, by Her Gracious Letter, has acquainted You, That the Treaty of Union, between the Kingdoms of *Scotland* and *England* (pursuant to an Act made in Your last Session) has been happily Agreed on, which is now in my Lord Registers Hands, ready to be laid before You.

The Lords Commissioners, for this Kingdom, have been Diligent and Zealous in Concerting Just and Reasonable Terms; and, it must be acknowledged, We met with a very Fair and Friendly Disposition in the Lords Commissioners on the other Part.

The Treaty has, with all Humility, been presented to the Queen, and was most Graciously Received; and tho' no Reign was ever so truly Great, for Wise and Steady Councils, and so many Important Successes, as that of Her Majesty; yet, You see, She is pleased to Esteem the Perfecting of this Union, as the greatest Glory of Her Reign, being the most solid Foundation of a lasting Security to the Protestant Religion, and the Liberties of *Europe*, and of Peace and Happiness to Her People.

These Reasons, I doubt not, will make the Treaty acceptable to You; And I perswade my self that You will Proceed with such Calmness and Impartiality, as the Weight of the Subject Requires, and as becomes so Great an Assembly.

The Lords Commissioners for both Kingdoms were Limited in the Matter of Church Government; For the Security of Presbyterian Govern-

ment

ment in this Church, you have the Laws already made for its Eſtabliſhment, the Queens Repeated Aſſurances to preſerve it, and I am Impowered to Conſent to what may be further neceſſary after the Union.

Her Majeſty has been pleaſed to Recommend to You to make Proviſion for the Forces, Ships and Gatriſons, which is very neceſſary, the Subſidies granted at Your laſt Meeting being run out; ſo, I doubt not, You will ſpeedily Renew them.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

I am not inſenſible of the Difficulties that attend the Weighty Character, it has pleaſed Her Majeſty to Honour me with, but with Your favourable Aſſiſtance, (upon which I very much Rely) I hope, by my Zeal and Fidelity for Her Majeſties Service, and the Good of my Countrey, which are inſeparable, to Diſcharge my Duty on this extraordinary occaſion.

THE SPEECH OF James *Earl of* Seafield *Lord High Chancellor, to the* PARLIAMENT *of* SCOTLAND.

On *Thursday* the 3*d.* of *October* 1706.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

IT hath been, and is the great Happineſs of this Nation, That the Queen Our Soveraign, hath always made it the chief Deſign of Her Reign, to protect her Subjects in the Enjoyment of all their Rights and Privileges, to Promove their Good, and to Eſtabliſh their Peace and Proſperity, upon ſure and laſting Foundations.

For theſe ends, Her Majeſty, in Her moſt Gracious Letter, doth, with great Earneſtneſs, Recommend to You the Concluding of the Union of the Two Kingdoms, and has plainly and fully laid before you the great Advantages that this Union muſt bring with it to all *BRITAIN*, and in particular to this Kingdom.

The Lords Commiſſioners named by Her Majeſty for this Kingdom to Treat of this Union, have endeavoured to Diſcharge this great Truſt, with all Fidelity, and have agreed to ſuch Terms and Conditions, as, I hope, ſhall be found Juſt, Honourable, and Advantageous: The Treaty has been already Received very graciouſly by Her Majeſty, and is now ready to be Reported to you for your Conſideration.

I do not think it proper at this Time to deſcend into the particular Articles of the Treaty; I ſhall only beg leave to ſay in General, That it muſt be of great Advantage to have this whole Iſland Unite under one Government, and Conjoyned entirely in Intereſt and Affection, having Equality of all Rights and Privileges, with a free Communication and Intercourſe of Trade, which muſt certainly Eſtabliſh Our Security, Augment Our Strength, and Increaſe Our Trade and Riches.

We

We can never Expect a more favourable Juncture for Compleating this Union, than at preſent, when Her Majeſty has not only Recommended it, but Declared, That ſhe will Eſteem it the greateſt Glory of Her Reign, to have it Perfected; And when the Parliament of *England* has ſhown Their Inclinations for it, by Removing all theſe Obſtacles that did ly in the way of the Treaty: And it muſt alſo be acknowledged that the Lords Commiſſioners for *England* did Teſtify their good Diſpoſition all along in this Affair: And the Great and Glorious Succeſſes wherewith GOD has Bleſſed Her Majeſties Arms, and thoſe of Her Allies, give us the Hope of a Near and Advantageous Peace, whereby we will be put in the Poſſeſſion, and attain to the full Enjoyment of all the Liberties and Privileges of Trade, now Offered by the Treaty.

The Commiſſioners of both Sides, have only Treated of ſuch Things as concern the Civil Government, Liberties, Privileges, Trade, and Taxes; but found themſelves Limited as to the Church-Government, that being Reſerved to each Kingdom by the reſpective Acts of Parliament, upon which the Treaty proceeded; And you have now not only the Laws already made, with Her Majeſties moſt Gracious Repeated Aſſurances, for maintaining and continuing Presbyterian Church-Government within this Kingdom; But this further Opportunity of making ſuch Conditions and Proviſions, as ſhall be found Neceſſary for its Security, after the Concluſion of this Union, within the Limits of *SCOTLAND*.

Her Majeſty Recommends to You to Provide the neceſſary Supplies for the Troops, Garriſons and Ships; The Funds formerly given are expyred; And therefore I doubt not but you will eaſily Comply with what is ſo plainly neceſſary for the Preſervation of the Publick Safety, and Preventing the Deſigns of Enemies now in time of War.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

Since We have now the Opportunity of Eſtabliſhing for Our Selves and Our Poſterity, by this Union with *England*, all that concerns Our Religion and Liberties, together with the moſt valuable Privileges of Trade; I am hopeful that You will Proceed to the Conſideration of the Articles of the Treaty, in ſuch manner as ſhall bring it to the deſired Concluſion, and it cannot but tend to the laſting Honour of this Seſſion of Parliament to have ſo happily finiſhed this moſt Important and Weighty Matter.

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